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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

SUBJECT New Political Education Program

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. Important consultations about political education in the army are now taking place in Prague under the direction of General Jan Zeman, head of political administration in the army.
2. According to recommendations recently received in Prague from Soviet military authorities, political education in the army will be unified and placed completely under the direction of the Communist Party. The Communist Party will form a military department, which will be attached to the High Political School of the Party, and through which all officers over the rank of captain will pass.
3. The military department, composed of civilian delegates of the Party, will be attached to the Vysoka Stranické Skola at Prague as of 1 November 1953, under the leadership of Rudolf Vejska. The professors placed in charge of politically educating officers will be chosen from the secretariat of the Party and not, as in the past, from among officers considered politically reliable.
4. The Central Committee of the Party has placed Frantisek Necasek in charge of inspecting the work of the High Political School. Necasek was head of Gottwald's political office and spent much time in the USSR. His wife is a Russian, and as one of the leading agents of the MVD was in charge of the Ministry of National Security until September 1953.

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5. This reorganization will tighten the grip of the Party on the army. General staff people fear that this will result in promotions for Party activity alone, and it will lower the quality of command, especially in the higher formations.
6. The Soviet authorities have imposed similar measures in Poland. It is expected that General Karol Witaszowski, head of the political administration of the Polish Army will come to Prague to study the new school.

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